

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been amended by inserting a comma after “reduced” in step a) to clarify that it is a previously reduced catalyst that is incorporated in the matrix; by changing “the” to --a--, where appropriate, for antecedent basis reasons; and by correcting a typographical error for inert gas (5’), as supported in the specification at page 11, lines 7-8 and Fig. 1. Claims 8, 19 and 20 have been amended to correct a typographical error, as supported in the specification at page 7, lines 14-16.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 17-20 are active; Claims 9-16 stand withdrawn from consideration.

REMARKS

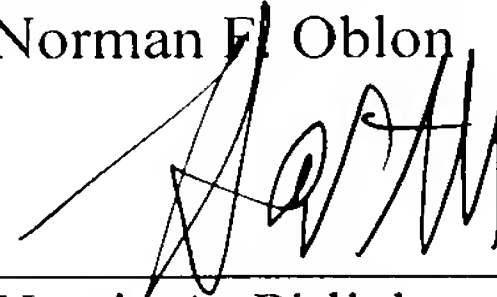
The provisional rejection of Claims 1-8 and 17-20 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-20 of copending Application No. 10/571,125 (copending application), is respectfully traversed. **Submitted herewith** is a Terminal Disclaimer over the copending application. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the provisional rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the presently-pending claims in this application are now in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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